

BELL AWARD

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MONTANA STATEHOOD 2003 CENTENNIAL BELL AWARD

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**SUPPORTED IN
PART BY:**

The Montana Office of Public Instruction—Helena.

PURPOSE:

To honor the Montana History Teacher of the Year. Since 2000, the award alternates between teachers of grades 7-8 and grades 4-5. In odd years, the award will recognize a teacher of grades 4-5; in even years a teacher of grades 7-8 will be recognized.

**FURTHER
PURPOSE:**

To perpetuate the awareness of Montana Statehood Day. On November 8, 1989, at the Montana Statehood Centennial Celebration, the Montana Statehood Centennial Bell was permanently installed in the Montana State Capitol by an act of the Montana State Legislature. At that ceremony, Governor Stan Stephens rang the bell at 10:40 a.m., the exact minute Montana officially became the 41st state in 1889. Thousands of Montana men, women, and children joined in the ringing of individual bells for 60 seconds. The Montana Statehood Centennial Bell Award program seeks to make an annual event of this historic moment by honoring the Montana teacher who has made a significant contribution to their students' understanding and appreciation of Montana history and cultural diversity.

ENTRY:

In 2003, Montana history teachers of grades 4-5 are eligible to enter. Nominations from principals were solicited. Each applicant will submit a typed, double-spaced essay (maximum of 600 words) describing their approach to and experiences in teaching Montana history during the 2002-2003 school year. Applicants should also include four letters of support—one each from a principal, a fellow teacher, a parent, and a student. Entries will be judged on student participation, originality of presentation, the inclusion of Montana's cultural diversity, community history, and an overview of Montana's history.

PRIZE:

The winning teacher and his or her class will travel to Helena to ring the Montana Statehood Centennial Bell, which is housed in the State Capitol Building, for 60 seconds on Friday, November 7, 2003, at 10:40 a.m. in recognition of Statehood Day. The teacher will receive a plaque and \$1,000 to provide reimbursement for lunch, bus mileage, and the purchase of Montana history materials for his or her school library.

DEADLINE:

Entries should be postmarked no later than **October 3, 2003**, and sent to: *Montana Statehood Centennial Bell Award, 3233 3rd Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405.*

SELECTION:

A distinguished panel of Montana history advocates will make the final selection of the winner. Finalists will receive certificates of recognition signed by Governor Judy Martz and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Linda McCulloch.

**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION:**

People who would like more information can contact Norma Ashby, Montana Statehood Centennial Bell Award Coordinator at 3233 3rd Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405 (406-453-7078). In addition, information on the Bell Award is posted on the Internet at <www.krtv.com>.

BELL AWARD

May 2003

To: Montana Elementary School Principals

From: Norma Ashby, Coordinator
Montana Statehood Centennial Bell Award

Re: 2003 Bell Award Nominations

We invite you to nominate a 4th or 5th grade teacher in your school who you think has done an exemplary job in teaching Montana history during the 2002-2003 school year. The nomination form is enclosed and the deadline is May 16.

All nominees will receive an entry form in May with the deadline for returning it October 3, 2003.

The winner will be given the 14th Annual Montana Statehood Centennial Bell Award as the Montana History Teacher of the Year. The prize is a plaque and \$1,000 to provide the purchase of Montana history materials for his or her school library, reimbursement for lunch and bus mileage.

The winner and his or her class will travel to Helena on Friday, November 7, 2003, for the Award Ceremony and to ring the Montana Statehood Centennial Bell in the State Capitol in recognition of Statehood Day.

All finalists will receive certificates of recognition signed by Governor Judy Martz and Superintendent of Public Instruction Linda McCulloch.

Sponsored by News Stations KRTV, Great Falls; KXLF, Butte; KPAX, Missoula; and KTVQ, Billings, in cooperation with the Office of Public Instruction in Helena. This is an exciting program which recognizes outstanding teachers and gives students an opportunity to experience history in action.

Thank you for making this program a success. I look forward to receiving your nomination by May 16.

**14TH MONTANA STATEHOOD
CENTENNIAL BELL AWARD
NOMINATION CARD**

I would like to nominate the following teacher for the Montana Statehood Centennial Bell Award for his/her exemplary job in teaching Montana history during the 2002-2003 school year.

Teacher's Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ **ZIP:**_____

School:_____ **Telephone:**_____

Grade Taught: ☐ 4th ☐ 5th

Nominator's Name:_____

☐ **Principal**

Nominations need not be submitted on this card, but they must contain the same information and be sent to Norma Ashby, Montana Centennial Bell Award Coordinator, 3233 3rd Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405 or to norma@in-tch.com no later than **May 16, 2003**.